

A₂
C2
Contd

20. An elevator door system as defined in claim 18, wherein the flat drive motor is disposed generally adjacent to the first side of the door opening [and includes a first sheave drivingly coupled to the flat drive motor, and further comprising a second sheave mounted on the header bracket generally at the second side of the door opening, a rope forming a closed loop about the first and the second sheaves, and means for attaching the door to the rope].

21. An elevator door system as defined in claim [20] 16, wherein the rope defines upper and lower portions each extending between the first and the second sheaves, and further comprising another door [and another means for coupling the other door] attached to the rope, one [coupling means attaching an associated] door attached to an upper portion of the rope, and the [other coupling means attaching the] other door attached to a lower portion of the rope such that the doors move in opposite directions relative to one another as the flat drive motor moves the rope about a portion of the closed loop.

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed August 30, 2000. Claims 1, 3-6 and 16-21 were rejected in the Office Action. Claims 2, 7-15 and 22-38 were withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected species. After amendment, Claims 16-21 remain pending and reconsideration of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

A provisional election was made to Species 1, subspecies 1, claims 1, 3-6 and 16-21. Applicants hereby affirm this election of species.

The drawings were objected to because Figure 2 was alleged to be missing. Applicants wish to point out that Figure 2 is not in sequence on the drawing sheets and is located on the same page as Figure 8. Reconsideration of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Princell.

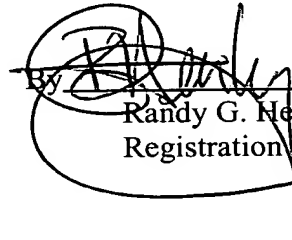
Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. Princell discloses a door operator with a motor (74), a gearbox (76), an output shaft (78) and a spool (44). The motor is not a flat motor as conventionally understood; the spool is not a sheave as conventionally understood; and, most importantly, the motor is not integrated into the sheave or spool as claimed in Claim 16. The spool of Princell is driven by the output shaft, which itself is driven by the gearbox separate from the spool, and the gearbox is driven by the motor separate from the gearbox, output shaft and spool. Therefore, Princell does not anticipate or make obvious the invention as claimed in Claim 16 or Claims 17-21, which depend from Claim 16. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masatake. Since the discussion in the Office Action also referred to Princell, Applicants' representative has assumed that this rejection is actually based on Princell in view of Masatake.

Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection. First, Masatake is directed to a window drive motor and not a door operator. There is no indication that such a motor would or even could be considered for an elevator door operator. Second, the simple substitution of the motor of Masatake into the door operator of Princell does not produce Applicants' invention as claimed in Claim 16. Substitution of the Masatake motor for the Princell motor (74) does not provide the element of having the motor integrated into the sheave. Neither Princell nor Masatake disclose such an arrangement. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection of Claims 16-21.

Inasmuch as neither the structure nor function of Applicants invention is anticipated or made obvious, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claims 16-21.

Respectfully submitted,
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